

Statewide Workgroup Meeting Minutes December 17, 2001

Entities in Attendance:

Yolo County, Mendocino County, Placer County, Sutter County, Humboldt County, San Diego County, Sacramento County, Los Angeles County, San Francisco County, Kern County, Riverside County, Napa County, Department of Health Services, Department of Aging, Department of Rehabilitation, Department of Developmental Services, Department of Consumer Affairs/Medical Board, OSHPD, Department of Mental Health, Department of Social Services, HHSDC, DOIT, Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs, and Office of HIPAA Implementation.

Introduction - Ken McKinstry

Office of HIPAA Implementation (OHI) Update

Burt Cohen – (OHI) – Updates:

1. Assessments have been sent to the Departments and are due back to OHI on December 31, 2001
2. H.R. 3323 has passed the House and Senate and is awaiting the President's signature. Burt outlined the details of H.R 3323.
3. Burt differentiated between the role of the Statewide workgroup and OHI.

OHI Role

Bobbie Holm of OHI and Ken McKinstry gave a presentation of the role of OHI with the Workgroups and how products will come through for approval through OHI. Ken listed benefits of being a participant of the workgroup.



Double click on picture to view entire presentation

Questions:

What is the federal bill that just passed? - H.R. 3323 (Burt Cohen, OHI)

Will OHI be posting policies and information on the web page? - Yes (Bobbie Holm, OHI); a process will be developed and shared.

Will there be a legal team monitoring state vs. federal laws? - Yes; a legal workgroup has been formed to discuss preemption issues (Steve Stuart, OHI, Cheri Huber – Napa County, and David Smith – San Diego County).

Open Discussion

Ken discussed alternatives for working with fewer resources. Sara Gilb said that with the Y2K project, resources were redirected. Ken discussed exploiting federal funding grant opportunities (Technology Opportunities Program – Department of Commerce). The grant may be available for IT systems. Ken also suggested using the county's business partners in the private sector. Question: Marilyn in LA County posed the statement that some entities can't be responsible for their partners and their compliance.

Burt Cohen suggested appointing a Privacy Officer to create some of the basic documents needed

Subsequently this could reduce liability when Privacy is implemented. It was mentioned that some of the documents are already on the web page awaiting approval. Ken noted that groups need to appoint those officers and make it happen.

Security needs to be in place. Even though the final rule has not been made, work needs to begin. Purchases need to be made with the Security Rule in mind. Schneor Sherman noted that this needs to be done on a common infrastructure.

Planning and awareness needs to be taking place with Business Partners. Infrastructure needs to be in place. Medi-Cal Managed Care working with New York to try and share information of how things are working there. Ken suggested maybe state and counties could put their resources together.

Infrastructure Opportunity

State and Counties have an opportunity. If these groups implemented methods individually then in the end it would not all work together. If anything it may bankrupt you and things may never get done. Marilyn from LA agreed. The National Provider File is another issue. There are going to be well over a million providers who will be issued a National Provider Number and a need for daily download. One suggested fraud will have to be addressed. Ken suggested that the implementation would be monumental.

Ken solicited volunteers to assist with this opportunity and received 5 volunteers. Burt suggested looking into the TOP Grant seminar in January.

Workgroup Leaders

Commendation Presentation to Karen Weber, Marchell Burgess, Rachel Strider, Mary Pecci, Mike McDaniel, Ray Reis, Marilyn VonBrauchitsch and Sarah Gilb.

Ken presented certificates to these folks for their hard work and dedication over the last year and a half.

Changing of the Guard

We may be losing a few leads due to the budget constraints but many folks are stepping up. It is very much appreciated.

Questions: How does someone join a workgroup and find out when and where they meet? Ken suggested an email be sent to the workgroup leaders with a cc to him.

MSA Workgroup

The bid opening is today at DGS for the HIPAA MSA. An expected due date for completion is January 4th.

Conferences

Las Vegas trip for TOP grant is coming up.

Workgroup Issues

- County Issues: There is consensus agreement on the interpretation. They have 6 products complete and ready for OHI review. People have agreed to produce an agreement item where some social programs are not a health plan. They have agreed to determine if three programs (Adult Protective Services, Child Protective Services, and In-Home Support Services) are healthcare providers or not (Meg Sheldon is the lead.) Riverside County is looking at the Medically Indigent Program and determine what its primary purpose is; the provision of health services. The county group has three efforts. Terrie Williams (OHI) passed out a brief survey for Counties to complete to assess their resources. An All County Letter from the Secretary has been drafted and hopes are that it will be out soon.
- Transaction & Code Sets: No representation
- Privacy, Confidentiality & Security Standards: (Schneor Sherman) The group produces templates that can be used by any group. A preliminary review of a privacy statement was reviewed and work continues. The group also is developing a template for law review/state preemption. A document will soon be placed on the web for review and comment. Security and Privacy Workplan templates are being developed. Next meeting is January 8th in the Bateson Building. DHS has been working on survey software to do assessments of providers. Their contractor will make it available in a web-based format. DHS is willing to share it.
- Legal Issues: Nothing to report as yet.
- Research - Therese Hart discussed that a Department requested a Research Workgroup. It was discussed that it fall under the Security and Privacy Group. Kathy Styc will develop the group, DMH, 654-6949, or call an OHI person.

- Communication - Last met November 7th. They are refining and defining the charter. They plan to look at the guidelines for communication. The next meeting is December 20th.

Next Meeting

Next meeting is January 7th at 744 P Street Auditorium. There were no recommendations on how to improve the meeting